

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 263424

CARACAS FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, CO, VE

SUBJECT: FY 75 NARCOTICS FIELD BUDGET SUBMISSION

REFS: (A) BOGOTA A-173, (B) BOGOTA 9705, (C) STATE 220986

1. LAINCC AND CCINC COORDINATING SUBCOMMITTEE MET
CONCURRENTLY NOVEMBER 18 TO CONSIDER REPORT OF
NARCOTICS REVIEW TEAM RE NARCOTICS PROGRAM AND
PROPOSED FUNDING LEVELS. COMMITTEES APPROVED
ACTION PLAN INCLUDING \$220,400 FOR DAS IN FY 75 AS.
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SET FORTH IN TEAM REPORT COPY BEING POUCHED SEPARATELY.
COMMITTEES ALSO ENDORSED FOLLOWING MODIFIED
RECOMMENDATIONS OF TEAM (SUB-PARAGRAPHS A-E BELOW) TO
SERVE AS BASES FOR NARCOTICS PROGRAM WITH DAS
AND GOC IN FY 75:

A. THAT THE DAS NARCOTICS ACTION PROGRAM BE REVIEWED
IN THE SPRING OF 1975 TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE GOALS
ARE BEING ACCOMPLISHED. IF DAS IS ABLE TO MOUNT A
PROGRAM WITH 120 MEN AS PLANNED, THE REVIEW SHOULD
CONCENTRATE ON ADDITIONAL EFFORTS BOTH THE GOC AND U.S.
CAN UNDERTAKE TO MAKE THE UNIT FULLY OPERATIONAL.

B. THAT DEA PREPARE A TWO WEEK IN-COUNTRY TRAINING
PROGRAM IN JANUARY 1975 FOR THE NEW DAS AGENTS NOW
BEING SELECTED.

C. THAT THE EMBASSY MAKE KNOWN AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL
OF THE GOC THE CRITICAL NATURE OF DAS PARTICIPATION
IN THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM AND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN
CONTINUITY OF PERSONNEL AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR DAS
EFFORTS.

D. THAT WE FOLLOW AN EVEN-HANDED APPROACH TO DAS, THE
NATIONAL POLICE, AND CUSTOMS REALIZING THAT ALL PLAY
AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE NARCOTICS FIELD. WE SHOULD
BE PREPARED TO ACT ON A PROGRAM FOR ADDITIONAL
ASSISTANCE TO THE OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS
ENFORCEMENT AS JUSTIFIED AND TIED TO EACH AGENCY'S
NARCOTICS ACTION PROGRAM.

E. THAT THE MISSION ENCOURAGE THE GOC INCLUDING DAS
AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE TO CONTINUE TO FOCUS
ON ELIMINATING CORRUPTION IN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

2. COMMITTEES FOCUSED ON NEED FOR GOC CENTRAL
COORDINATION OF OVERALL NARCOTICS EFFORT. EMBASSY
SHOULD STRESS THE NEED FOR A COORDINATED EFFORT IN
THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT FIELD - BE THAT THROUGH THE
NATIONAL NARCOTICS COORDINATING COUNCIL OR WHATEVER
MECHANISM THE GOVERNMENT MAY DEVELOP - SO AS TO ENABLE
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THE BEST ALLOCATION AND USE OF RESOURCE AND TO AVOID
DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.

3. WHILE APPROVAL GIVEN FOR PROVISION DOLS24,000
OPERATING COSTS IN FY 1975, PROJECT AGREEMENT SHOULD
REFLECT COLOMBIAN COMMITMENT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY
THESE COSTS IN SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS. WE REALIZE

THAT IN VIEW CURRENT GOC ECONOMIC AUSTERITY PROGRAM,
IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR GOC TO PICK UP THESE ITEMS
IN NEAR FUTURE, HOWEVER BELIEVE EMBASSY MAY WISH
RAISE NEED FOR GOC ASSUME LARGER ROLE FINANCING
OPERATING COSTS WITH FINANCE MINISTRY AND/OR PLANEACION.

4. COMMITTEES QUESTIONED DEGREE TO WHICH RADIO
NETWORK IN THE LLANOS AREA (38 RADIO SETS) WOULD BE
USED FOR NARCOTICS PURPOSES. GIVEN CONGRESSIONAL
PROHIBITION AGAINST GENERAL POLICE ASSISTANCE, PROJECT
AGREEMENT SHOULD SPELL OUT THAT EQUIPMENT WE PROPOSE
TO REPAIR IN LLANOS AREA IS PART OF GOC-U.S. NARCOTICS

COOPERATION EFFORT AND THAT GOC SHOULD AGREE THAT THIS
EQUIPMENT WILL BE DEVOTED SUBSTANTIALLY TO NARCOTICS
ENFORCEMENT EFFORT.

5. BASED ON FOREGOING MISSION AUTHORIZED NEGOTIATE
PROJECT AGREEMENTS FOR UP TO DOLS260,000. ALLOTMENT
INFORMATION FOLLOWS SEPTEL. WE PREPARING PROCUREMENT
WAIVER ENABLE IN-COUNTRY PURCHASE SEDANS AND MOTORCYCLES
AND WILL FORWARD ASAP ORDER ENABLE MISSION INCLUDE
THIS INFORMATION IN PIO/C. INGERSOLL

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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